

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Directs that Holidays on certain days of Hindu Festivals be cancelled in the case of the Urdu Schools.

READ—

Letter No. A. 2—4853 of 32-33, dated 31st July 1933, from the Director of Public Instruction, stating that at present Urdu Schools are allowed in addition to full holidays on all days of Mohamedan Festivals, full holidays on eight days of Hindu Festivals as noted in the margin, every year, while Kannada Schools are not allowed full holidays on days of Mohamedan Festivals, except the last day of Moharam and the Birthday of Mohamed, and recommending in the circumstances mentioned, that holidays on the eight days of Hindu Festivals mentioned above may be cancelled for the Urdu Schools.

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| 1. Uttarayana Punyakala. | 5. Apasthamba Upakarma. |
| 2. Sivaratri. | 6. Aswalayana Upakarma. |
| 3. Lunar New Year's Day. | 7. Deepavali. |
| 4. Ganessa. | 8. Balipadyami. |

ORDER NO. E. 912—EDN. 111-32-16, DATED BANGALORE,
THE 2ND SEPTEMBER 1933.

Sanctioned.

H. V. RAMASVAMI,
*Secretary to Government,
General Department.*

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT

Passes orders in the matter of charging special reduced rates for electrical power, etc., supplied to Government Departments.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. 88404, dated 23rd June 1933, from the Chief Electrical Engineer in Mysore, in the matter of charging special reduced rates for power, etc., supplied to other Government Departments.

ORDER NO. FL. 1417-76—G. F. 48-32-6, DATED BANGALORE, THE
6TH SEPTEMBER 1933.

About one-seventh of the present gross revenue of the Electrical Department is derived from the supply of power to lighting and power installations of Government Offices and Concerns. Government are thus consumers of a large block of power and they should get the benefit of the best rates which the Department allows to similar consumers. The rates now charged to Government, especially for lights and fans are practically the same as those charged to small consumers, and this is not a fair arrangement. Apart from this consideration, it is undesirable to overstate, by the adoption of unreasonably high rates, the adjustment revenue of the Department which represents no cash incoming but on which proposals involving cash outlay are based and settled. The electrical supply service is a commercial concern and the Department should undoubtedly get proper value for the power sold by it to all consumers, whether private persons or Government Offices or institutions. Government therefore are of opinion that the only right course is to charge to its institutions and offices the rates which are reasonable in view of all considerations and to include, in the ordinary course, in the accounts of the supplying and consuming departments the adjustments based on such rates.

2. The Chief Electrical Engineer who was consulted in the matter, has suggested the following reduced rates to be charged to Government Departments other than Commercial Departments like Railways.

Proposed rate.

Power for lighting and fans	4 annas a month per lamp or wall plug and 8 annas per month per ceiling fan.
Palace lighting	Flat rate of 1 anna per unit without any discount.
Power for other purposes	5 of an anna per B.O.T.U.

3. Government consider that the rates suggested by the Chief Electrical Engineer are reasonable and they accordingly direct that the rates suggested be adopted provisionally for a period of two years and that the position be reviewed at the end of this period with a view to see if the rates require any revision. They consider that one important point to be examined in reconsidering the question is to see if the adoption of the flat rates for lamps, plugs, and ceiling fans leads to any excessive consumption of energy requiring some remedy for preventing waste of power. These flat rates cannot, however, be applied in the case of Government buildings let out for rent and the ordinary rates should be charged in such cases.

4. Government also direct that the meters now used for separately measuring the power supplied to each office be removed and used elsewhere. In the case, however, of big buildings in which the number of lights, plugs and ceiling fans used is large, one meter may be put up in each such building for measuring periodically the power consumed, with a view to see how the revenue from the flat rates compares with the actual quantity of power taken and whether the rates are fair to both the supplying and the consuming departments.

5. As regards power supplied for lights, the cost of which is classified under "General Administration," they consider that the flat rate of one anna per unit with no discount suggested by the Chief Electrical Engineer is somewhat high, considering the quantity of power taken for this purpose, and direct that the question of reducing it be considered at the end of two years.

6. With regard to power supplied to the Railway Department, the several Water Works Projects, Industrial Works and the Government Press and Stationery, whether for lighting or for operating machinery, Government consider that the present rates may remain unaltered. It is, however, necessary to examine how these rates compare with those charged to private consumers of similar blocks of power. If the Government concerns are being charged higher rates than those allowed to others, the question of reducing them will have to be considered. This matter will be further examined by the Chief Electrical Engineer and a report submitted to Government.

7. The rates for street and ornamental lights, the cost of which is classified under "General Administration," may remain unaltered as proposed by the Chief Electrical Engineer.

8. These reductions in the rates should be given effect to, commencing from the current official year.

9. The Chief Electrical Engineer is requested to give effect to the order and issue subsidiary rules which may be found necessary and to send a copy of the same to Government for information.

10. There will be savings in the normal grants for the several Departments provided in the current year's budget owing to the reduction in the rates referred to in this order, and the savings thus effected should be surrendered to Government and not utilised for other purposes.

A. N. RAGHAVACHAR,
Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Passes orders on the report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Accounts for 1931-32.

READ—

The Audit and Appropriation Accounts of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore for the year 1931-32, submitted by the Comptroller.

2. Report of the Public Accounts Committee thereupon.

ORDER NO. FL. 1490-1549—G. F. 155-32, DATED BANGALORE, THE
7TH SEPTEMBER 1933.

Para 2 of the Committee's Report.—The Committee have drawn attention to the delay in the submission of the Report by the Comptroller. The Comptroller's attention is invited to the instructions conveyed in communication No. FL 5572—G. F. 111-32-2, dated 13th April 1933, for ensuring the timely preparation and transmission of the Report on or before the due date.

Para 7, Supplementary Grants.—Government agree with the Committee in considering that there is need for the exercise of greater care on the part of the Departments when applying for supplementary grants. The progress of expenditure should be closely followed and application for supplementary grants made only when they are quite necessary and cannot be met by re-appropriation of original budget grants.

Para 10, Non-voted Grants.—The question whether the Committee could comment on non-voted items has been fully examined and there are no reasons to reconsider the orders already passed.

Para 13.—The attention of the Agent, Mysore Railways, is invited to the observations of the Committee made in this para and he is requested to arrange for the prompt settlement of the claims.

Para 14, Railway Department.—The Committee have referred to certain irregularities in connection with the stores of the Department and have observed that the Audit and Administrative Branches of the Department should work together to improve the system of accounts for exercising effective control over all transactions relating to Stores. Government endorse the opinion expressed by the Committee and request the Agent to take action in consultation with the Comptroller on the lines suggested by them.

Para 15.—The attention of the Director of Industries and Commerce is invited to the suggestions of the Committee for obviating occasions for writing off losses. As regards the enforcement of the personal liability of officers responsible for losses, instructions have been issued in Government Order No. FL 1078-1138—G. F. 46-29-1, dated 12—14th August 1929.

Para 16, Electrical Department.—The Committee have suggested that the system of supply of power to rural areas for lighting and pumping installations might be examined with a view to encouraging the expansion of electrical service and increasing the revenue of the Department. This matter is under consideration.

The attention of the Heads of the Departments concerned is invited to the other suggestions made by the Committee in the body of the Report.

A. N. RAGHAVACHAR,
Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.